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Annual Report

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

*VITAL STATISTICS,
SANITARY WORKS,
HOUSING, Etc.,*

for the Year 1951.

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA.

VITAL STATISTICS,

SANITARY WORKS,

HOUSING, Etc.

for the year 1951.

— BY —

Dr. F. J. H. MARTIN

(M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.)


Medical Officer of Health,

— AND —

ARTHUR J. DENNIS

(M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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The Health Department,
The Red House,
Castle Street,
Barnstaple,
July, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Report upon
the Public Health of the Barnstaple Rural
District for the year 1951.

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK MARTIN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Staff.

PART TIME OFFICER.

Medical Officer of Health : DR. F. J. H. MARTIN,
M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.

WHOLE TIME OFFICERS.

Building Surveyor and Engineer { A. J. DENNIS,
Chief Sanitary Inspector - { M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.

Additional Sanitary Inspector - { F. A. LETHBRIDGE,
A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Second Sanitary Inspector - R. WEST, Cert. R.S.I.

Assistant Architect - - C. D. SQUIRE, A.I.A.S

Clerks - - - { MISS C. HEARN
MISS D. PATERSON
MISS J. MACROW.

Social Conditions.

The chief occupations of the district are :—

1. Catering for Visitors.
2. Agriculture.
3. Market Gardening.

The locality may be regarded as purely non-industrial,
and employment is on the whole steady.

1951.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Barnstaple Rural District.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---------------|
| Area in Acres | - | - | - | 129,346 |
| Population | - | - | - | 23,150 |
| Inhabited Houses | - | - | - | 7,525 |
| Rateable Value | - | - | - | £129,081 |
| Value of a Penny Rate | - | - | - | £528 16s. 2d. |

Vital Statistics.

| Live Births. | | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|---|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate | - | 165 | 148 | 313 |
| Illegitimate | - | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| | | | | 324 |

Birth Rate per 1000 Population 13'9.

| Still Births. | | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------|---|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate | - | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Illegitimate | - | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | 8 |

Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births 24'0.

| Deaths | | Male | Female | Total |
|--------|--|------|--------|-------|
| | | 148 | 166 | 314 |

Death Rate per 1000 Population 13'5.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Puerperal Fever | - | - | 0 |
| Other Maternal Causes | - | - | 0 |

Below is appended a Table which shows the comparative figures for the Barnstaple Rural District and England and Wales.

| Rate per 1000 Population | | | Death Rate per 1000 | Infant Mortality per 1000 Live Births | |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| | Live Births | Still Births | | Deaths under 1 year | Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years |
| Barnstaple Rural Dist. | 15.2 | ·34 | 10·6 | 24·6 | 0 |
| England and Wales | 15·5 | ·36 | 12·5 | 29·6 | 1·4 |

The local Birth and Death Rates are shown above corrected by the area comparability factor.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year.

| | | | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------|---|---|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate | - | - | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Illegitimate | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | 8 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|------|
| Rate per 1000 Live Births | - | - | 24·6 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | - | - | 0 |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | - | - | 0 |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years | - | - | 0 |

Causes of Death during the Year 1951.

| | | Males | Females |
|---|---|-------|---------|
| Tuberculosis (Respiratory) | - | 5 | 2 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | - | 0 | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach | - | 2 | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm of Lung | - | 1 | 0 |
| Malignant Neoplasm of Breast | - | 0 | 5 |
| Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus | - | 0 | 2 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | | 11 | 18 |
| Leukaemia | - | 0 | 1 |
| Diabetes | - | 0 | 1 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | | 18 | 30 |
| Coronary Disease | - | 22 | 15 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease | - | 5 | 3 |
| Other Heart Diseases | - | 37 | 54 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | - | 5 | 4 |
| Influenza | - | 5 | 5 |
| Pneumonia | - | 4 | 4 |
| Bronchitis | - | 5 | 7 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System | | 1 | 0 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum | | 2 | 0 |
| Gastritis Enteritis | - | 0 | 1 |
| Nephritis | - | 3 | 2 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | - | 5 | 0 |
| Congenital Malformation | - | 2 | 1 |
| Other defined and ill-defined Diseases | | 9 | 7 |
| Motor Accidents | - | 2 | 0 |
| All other Accidents | - | 2 | 1 |
| Suicide | - | 2 | 1 |
| | | 148 | 166 |

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Tuberculosis

Hawley Sanatorium, situated in the Borough of Barnstaple, has 28 beds.

Maternity Cases

The Devon County Council is continuing to act as they did in 1947, as agents for the Regional Hospital Board, until the Board has completed its own plans for the treatment of Maternity cases.

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 15 beds with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

At Bicklescombe Maternity Home, Ilfracombe, there are 20 Maternity and 4 Ante-natal beds.

There are 4 beds at Braunton Nursing Home.

A General Practitioners Maternity Unit of 13 beds was opened at Highfield, Victoria Road, Barnstaple, on March 1st, 1952.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

There is an Infectious Diseases Joint Isolation Hospital at Bideford, which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon. It comprises 34 beds (6 of which are in observation cubicles) and 4 cots.

Small Pox

The Small Pox Hospital to which any cases of Small Pox will be sent is Upton Pine Hospital, near Exeter. Special

Ambulance Transport can be obtained by contacting the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter. Telephone 67158.

General

The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, serves the Area, and provides modern Medical and Surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

During the year a ward at the Alexandra Hospital was set aside as an annexe to the male wards of the North Devon Infirmary, and post-operative and recovering patients are now transferred as soon as practicable.

A Blood Bank has been established at the North Devon Infirmary.

There are 123 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital.

At Braunton Nursing Home there are 4 beds for sick persons.

Laboratory Facilities

The Main Laboratory is situated at 7, Dix's Field, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out.

The new Pathological Laboratory is now open at the former Barnstaple and North Devon Dispensary building with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon Area.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

V.D. Clinic

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

| Sessions : | | Females | Males |
|------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| Monday | - | 4 p.m. | 5-15 p.m. |
| Thursday | - | 4-30 p.m. | 5-45 p.m. |

Chest Clinic

The Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary

Sessions :

| | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Tuesdays | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | } | Clinic and X-Ray Examinations |
| | 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. | | |
| Thursdays | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | | |
| | 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. | | |
| Fridays | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | } | A.P. Refils |
| | 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. | | |

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves Barnstaple Borough and the District around, and the Headquarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple. The staff consists of 3 paid members (full time), 20 men volunteers, and 14 volunteer nurses. The Hospital car service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon

application to the Hospital, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the Ambulance is not necessary.

Immunization against Diphtheria

During the year 263 children received primary injections ; 337 children received reinforcing injections.

Vaccination

During the year the following vaccinations were carried out :—

| Under 1 year | 1-4 years | 5-14 years | 15 years and over |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|
| 118 | 35 | 64 | 121 |

Professional Nursing in the Homes

In the Barnstaple Rural District Area there are two Health Visitors and twenty-three Nurses.

Home Helps Scheme

This scheme was started two years ago, and is run by the W.V.S. for the Devon County Council. It covers Barnstaple Borough and Rural Areas wherever transport is available, and the scheme is directed by Mrs. Hughes. There are 36 Home Helps, and 200 cases were dealt with in 1951 as compared with 24 Home Helps and 69 cases in 1950. Any case recommended by a Doctor, Health Visitor or District Nurse is entitled to a Home Help. The Home Helps do any work in the house normally done by the housewife. Twelve old people now living by themselves are now being looked after by the Home Helps who would otherwise have to go to Hospital. During the year 1951 twelve maternity cases have been rendered assistance in their homes by House Helps.

Disinfection of Infected Bedding and Clothing

By an arrangement with the Barnstaple Town Council all infected bedding and clothing can be disinfected in their steam disinfectors.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases

The following Tables give particulars of the Infectious Diseases notified during the year, together with the distribution of cases and the age groups.

| Names of Diseases. | No. Notified. |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Scarlet Fever - - - | 6 |
| Whooping Cough - - - | 71 |
| Pneumonia - - - | 16 |
| Erysipelas - - - | 3 |
| Measles - - - | 52 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia - - - | 1 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis - - - | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum - - - | 1 |
| Diphtheria - - - | 0 |
| Food Poisoning - - - | 1 |
| Paratyphoid Fever - - - | 1 |
| Dysentery - - - | 9 |
| Meningococcal Infection - - - | 1 |

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Tuberculosis—New Cases.

During the year 30 fresh cases of Tuberculosis were notified in accordance with the regulation.

| Age Periods. | Pulmonary. | | Non-Pulmonary. | |
|------------------|------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1 to 5 years - | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 to 10 years - | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 10 to 15 years - | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 15 to 25 years - | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 25 to 35 years - | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 35 to 45 years - | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 45 to 55 years - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 55 to 65 years - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 65 and over - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Age unknown - | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Totals | 12 | 11 | 4 | 3 |

Tuberculosis.

Distribution of Cases.

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|----|
| Ashford | - | - | 2 |
| Bishop's Tawton | - | - | 3 |
| Braunton | - | - | 5 |
| Combe Martin | - | - | 3 |
| Fremington | - | - | 4 |
| Instow | - | - | 1 |
| Landkey | - | - | 3 |
| Marwood | - | - | 1 |
| Mortehoe | - | - | 3 |
| Parracombe | - | - | 2 |
| Pilton West | - | - | 1 |
| West Down | - | - | 1 |
| Westleigh | - | - | 1 |
| | | | — |
| | | | 30 |

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

During the year 1951 one paralytic case occurred which was fatal.

I desire to thank Mr. Marshall Wright and Mr. Dennis for their help to me.

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN.

Infectious Diseases—Age Periods

| | Under | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | Age Un- known | Total |
|-------------------------|-------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | | | | 1 | 2 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 6 |
| Diphtheria | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whooping Cough | 3 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 71 |
| Measles | | 1 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 1 | | 4 | 2 | 52 |
| Polionmyelitis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 10 | 1 | 16 |
| Paratyphoid | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Erysipelas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | | 3 |
| Food Poisoning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Dysentery | | | | | | 2 | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | | 9 |
| Meningococcal Infection | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Ophthalmia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Neonatorum | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| TOTALS | - | 5 | 6 | 15 | 20 | 20 | 17 | 13 | 12 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 6 | 163 |

Distribution of Infectious Diseases Cases Notified during 1951.

| | Measles | Whooping Cough | Pneumonia | Polio-myelitis | Erysipelas | Scarlet Fever | Sonne Dysentery | Meningococcal Infection | Opthalmia neonatorum | Para-typhoid | Food Poisoning | Puerperal Pyrexia | Total |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Arlington | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Ashford | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Atherington | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 4 |
| Berrynarbor | 1 | 7 | 5 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 17 |
| Bishop's Tawton | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Bittadon | ... | 8 | 1 | | | | 3 | | | | | | 9 |
| Bratton Fleming | ... | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Braunton | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Brendon | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Challacombe | ... | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | 6 |
| Combe Martin | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Countisbury | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| East Down | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Fremington | 5 | 21 | 4 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 35 |
| Georgeham | 5 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 6 |
| Goodleigh | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Heanton Punchardon | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| High Bray | ... | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Horwood | ... | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Instow | 15 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 18 |
| Kentisbury | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Landkey | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | 5 |
| Loxhore | ... | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Martinhoe | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Marwood | 6 | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 8 |
| Mortehoe | 1 | 5 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 8 |
| Newton Tracey | ... | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Parracombe | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| Pilton West | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Shirwell | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Stoke Rivers | ... | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Swimbridge | 4 | 2 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | 7 |
| Tawstock | ... | 7 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | 8 |
| Trentishoe | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | - |
| West Down | 4 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Westleigh | ... | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Total | 52 | 71 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 163 |

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, ENGINEER, AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE,
JULY, 1952

To the Chairman and Members of
The Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my sixth Annual Report of work
carried out during 1951.

General.

The area of your district is 129,346 acres with a population
of 23,150.

Agriculture, and catering for summer visitors are the two
main industries of the area.

The number of visitors bringing their own caravans, or
preferring to spend their holidays in caravans rather than in the
Hotels and Boarding Houses which abound in the area, have
created a new problem.

The County Planning Authority is now giving earnest
attention to the proved need for additional camping and caravan
sites, and the fact that large scale caravanning has come to stay
must be accepted.

This influx can be an economic advantage to the area
provided sufficient control is exercised and selection of sites is
made with proper regard to amenities, and that essential services
are available.

Unfortunately many owners are allowing their land to be used for the reception of caravans for a period of 28 days without obtaining any prior approval. This is permitted by the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, but it is such sites that cause trouble from a public health point of view.

The authorised camping or caravan sites have as a whole been very well conducted during the past year, and owners have always been ready to co-operate with my department.

Many of the villages are still, and will be for many years, without satisfactory water or sewerage schemes.

The North Devon Water Board have made steady progress during the year with the provision of piped water supplies. The villages of Croyde and Georgeham were supplied during the year and work proceeded steadily on the Wistland Pound Reservoir.

Contracts Nos. 1 and 2 of the South Bank Sewerage Scheme were completed, and it is hoped to have a starting date for No. 3 shortly. This will allow for the provision of the Fremington Pumping Station, mains in Fremington and Yelland, and the construction of the Works at East Yelland.

A serious chokeage occurred in the sewer at Instow in November. On investigation it was found that the sewer, which is 16 ft. deep and laid in running sand and approximately 8 ft. below high water mark, was choked by a piece of earthenware broken from the top of one of the pipes. This defect was remedied, but early attention is required to both the sewer and outfall.

A scheme is now in course of preparation for the pumping of the sewage to the East Yelland Works, which will obviate the necessity of expenditure on the existing outfall. This proposal,

if adopted, will also provide facilities for the provision of water carriage drainage at the R.E.M.E. Camp, a necessity which is long overdue.

Schemes are also in hand for (1) Hele Manor, (2) West Down, (3) Landkey, (4) Branton, Saunton, Heanton, Wrafton, Chivenor and Chivenor Aerodrome with Works in Branton Marshes, and (5) Bishop's Tawton.

It cannot be impressed too forcibly on the Council that the provision of the before-mentioned schemes and the several smaller village schemes which are necessary and will be embarked upon when the work in hand is complete, will lay a heavy financial burden on the area. This burden will no doubt be eased by Grant Aid, but the Council must be prepared for a considerable increase in staff and possibly re-organisation of departments, and a considerable annual outlay to meet the supervision and maintenance costs which will be inevitable with such large sewerage undertakings.

The British Electricity Authority is erecting a Power Station at East Yelland, and this undertaking, plus the considerable amount of Civil Engineering work now in progress, has caused a drain on labour resources, making it extremely difficult to secure sufficient labour for the Council's Housing programme.

The Housing programme has claimed much attention during the year. 45 houses were completed and at the end of the year 46 were in hand. 23 licences were issued for the erection of private houses.

Generally the year has been one of steady progress, despite labour and material shortages.

It has been found that the public are only too anxious to co-operate, and rarely has it been necessary to have recourse to statutory action in order to secure compliance with the various Acts and Orders.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This department is now collecting refuse as follows :—

| Parish | Period |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Ashford - - - | Monthly |
| Atherington - - - | Monthly |
| Berrynarbor - - - | Fortnightly |
| Bittadon - - - | Once Every Three Months |
| Bratton Fleming - - - | Monthly |
| Braunton (Village) - - - | Weekly |
| „ (Nethercott, Upcott, Lobb, Boode, Winsham) | Monthly |
| Brendon - - - | Monthly |
| Combe Martin - - - | Winter—Weekly. Summer—Twice Weekly |
| East Down - - - | Every Three Months |
| Fremington - - - | Fortnightly |
| Georgeham and Croyde - - - | Fortnightly |
| Goodleigh - - - | Monthly |
| Heanton Punchardon - - - | Fortnightly |
| High Bray - - - | Monthly |
| Horwood - - - | Monthly |
| Kentisbury - - - | Monthly |
| Landkey - - - | Monthly |
| Loxhore - - - | Every Three Months |
| Martinhoe - - - | Monthly |
| Marwood Hamlets - - - | Every Three Months |
| Mortehoe and Woolacombe - - - | Winter—Weekly |
| „ „ - - - | Summer—Twice Weekly |
| Newton Tracey - - - | Monthly |
| Parracombe - - - | Monthly |
| Shirwell - - - | Every Two Months |
| Swimbridge - - - | Monthly |
| Tawstock (Hele Manor) - - - | Fortnightly |
| „ (Village and Hamlets) - - - | Monthly |
| West Down - - - | Monthly |

Refuse is also collected during the Summer months from the Saunton Hotel, Army Camps, and the N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Centre at Croyde. These collections are in addition to the normal Parish collections, and are charged for as Trade Refuse.

Private Contractors collect the refuse in the undermentioned Parishes :—

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bishop's Tawton | - | Village Fortnightly. | Hamlets Quarterly |
| Instow | - | - | Twice Weekly |
| Westleigh | - | - | Every Two Months |

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of Inspections, Re-visits and Interviews during the year was 4,166. Made up as follows :—

| | | | |
|--|---|---|-----|
| Visits re Infectious Diseases | - | - | 21 |
| Water Supplies | - | - | 105 |
| Sewers | - | - | 836 |
| Number of Drains Inspected and Tested | - | - | 380 |
| Housing Repairs | - | - | 297 |
| Housing Act Inspections | - | - | 36 |
| Inspections and Surveys in connection with the Council's New Housing Programme | - | - | 734 |
| Building Licence Inspections, Planning and Re-visits under the control of Civil Building Defence Regulations 56A | - | - | 122 |
| Interviews in connection with the General Council's New Housing Programme | - | - | 650 |
| Inspection of Food Premises | - | - | 65 |
| Ice Cream Premises | - | - | 84 |
| Milk Retailers | - | - | 19 |
| Public Cleansing | - | - | 50 |
| Inspections under the Petroleum Acts | - | - | 1 |
| Public Health Act Inspections, Nuisances, etc. | - | - | 99 |
| Bakehouses | - | - | 4 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|-----|
| Rodent Control | - | - | 30 |
| Factories, Workplaces, Shops | - | - | 47 |
| Public Conveniences | - | - | 119 |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds and Camping Sites | - | - | 49 |
| Schools | - | - | 6 |
| Visits to Refuse Tips | - | - | 45 |
| Public Houses | - | - | 4 |
| Number of Council and Committee Meetings attended | | | 185 |
| Number of Complaints received during the Year | - | - | 173 |
| Nuisances reported to the Council | - | - | 5 |

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Two operators are engaged on the destruction of rats and other pests.

Regular attention is given to the Council's sewers and refuse tips.

Disposal of Carcases deposited on Foreshore.

Animal carcases are still being deposited around the foreshore from time to time. Arrangements have to be made for disposal, usually by burial in lime on the foreshore.

Total Notices (Served as under).

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|
| Public Health Act, 1936 | - | - | 5 |
| Housing Acts | - | - | 2 |

Swimming Pools.

The only Swimming Pool in the district is situated on the seashore and is privately owned. The pool is covered by every tide.

Offensive Trades.

Bye-laws are in operation for the control of Offensive Trades. There are two in the district :—

1. Tannery at Swimbridge.
2. Gut Scraping Premises at Pilton West.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.

There is no need for Regulations in this area in respect of underground sleeping rooms.

Tents, Vans, and Sheds.

Bye-laws are in force relating to the above.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Inspections are made of Food Premises throughout the district from time to time and improvements have been called for where necessary. There has been no need for Statutory action during the year.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year 1951 the undermentioned articles of Food were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Ham | - | - | 859 lbs. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ozs. |
| Beef | - | - | 40 lbs. |
| Pork | - | - | 6 lbs. 7 ozs. |
| Beef Loaf | - | - | 1 lb. 8 oz. |
| Pork Brawn | - | - | 12 lbs. 12 ozs. |
| Luncheon Meat | - | - | 53 lbs. 4 ozs. |
| Meat and Gravy | - | - | 2 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Brisling | - | - | 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Ox Tongue | - | - | 6 lbs. |
| Bacon | - | - | 4 lbs. |
| Potted Meat | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Soup | - | - | 1 lb. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Vegetable Soup | - | - | 7 lbs. 12 ozs. |
| Stewed Steak | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Jellied Veal | - | - | 21 lbs. 4 ozs. |
| Meat Soup | - | - | 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Chicken (Tinned) | - | - | 4 lbs. 14 ozs. |
| Chicken Soup | - | - | 6 tins |
| Smoked Haddock | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Sprats | - | - | 1 tin |
| Smoked Fillet | - | - | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ stones |
| Pilchards | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Salmon | - | - | 2 lbs. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Sardines | - | - | 4 ozs. |
| Milk (Tinned) | - | - | 20 tins |
| Marmalade | - | - | 2 lbs. |
| Jam | - | - | 15 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Beetroot | - | - | 19 lbs. 11 ozs. |
| Peas | - | - | 12 lbs. |
| Carrots | - | - | 10 lbs. 5 ozs. |
| Beans | - | - | 218 lbs. 12 ozs. |
| Tomatoes | - | - | 12 lbs. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. |
| Apples | - | - | 10 lbs. |
| Damsons | - | - | 5 lbs. |
| Apricots | - | - | 215 lbs. 4 ozs. |
| Peaches | - | - | 14 lbs. 10 ozs. |
| Greengages | - | - | 1 lb. 13 ozs. |
| Cherries | - | - | 6 lbs. 10 ozs. |
| Plums | - | - | 257 lbs. 1 oz. |
| Ground Almond | - | - | 28 lbs. |
| Ice Cream Powder | - | - | 10 lbs. |
| Sweetbread | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Prunes | - | - | 3 lbs. 12 ozs. |
| Grapefruit | - | - | 2 lbs. 15 ozs. |
| Treacle | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Spaghetti and Sausages | - | - | 2 lbs. |
| Orange Juice | - | - | 5 lbs. 15 ozs. |
| Celery | - | - | 1 lb. |
| Horseradish | - | - | 3 bottles |
| Cheese | - | - | 13 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Pineapple | - | - | 2 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Oranges | - | - | 2 lbs. 12 ozs. |

Ice Cream.

Regular inspections of Ice Cream premises were carried out. There was no need for Statutory action during the year.

Water.

21 Water Samples were taken, 8 of which proved satisfactory. Advice was given in all cases of unsatisfactory results in an endeavour to effect an improvement.

Farm Water Supplies.

Several Farm Water Supplies were investigated at the request of the Agricultural Executive Committee during the year.



FACTORIES ACT, 1937—PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

| Premises (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number on Register (3) | Number of | | | M/c line No. (7) |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | Inspections (4) | Written Notices (5) | Occupiers Prosecuted (6) | |
| (a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities - | 1 | 65 | 47 | Nil | Nil | 1 |
| (b) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies - | | | | | | |
| (a) Subject to the Local Authori- ties (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938 - | 2 | 2 | 7 | Nil | Nil | 2 |
| (b) Others - | 3 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 3 |
| (c) Other premises under the Act exclud- ing outworker premises - | 4 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 4 |
| Total - | | 67 | 54 | Nil | Nil | |

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

| Particulars (1) | M/c line No. (2) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7) | M/c line No. (8) |
|---|------------------------|---|-----------------|---|---|------------------------|
| | | Found (3) | Remedied (4) | Referred To H.M. Inspector (5) By H.M. Inspector (6) | | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) - | 5 | | | | | 5 |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) - | 6 | | | | | 6 |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) - | 7 | | | | | 7 |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) - | 8 | | | | | 8 |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) - | 9 | 2 | 2 | | | 9 |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) - | | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient - | 10 | | | | | 10 |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective - | 11 | 2 | 2 | | | 11 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes - | 12 | | | | | 12 |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to homework) - | 13 | | | | | 13 |
| Total - | | 4 | 4 | Nil | Nil | |

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111) - - 17.

BUILDING SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members of the BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL. July, 1952.

Gentlemen.

I beg to present the following Report on the activities of the Building Surveyor's Department during the year 1951.

As will be seen from the Summary of Inspections in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, 650 interviews were given in connection with your Housing Programme. The greater part of this work fell upon the staff of this department, as also did the mass of records and reports that have to be made to various Government Departments from time to time.

Building Licences 1951.

Housing Repairs

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--------|
| No. of Licences granted | - | - | 32 |
| Total cost | - | - | £7,509 |

Re-instatement

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--------|
| No. of Licences granted | - | - | 4 |
| Total cost | - | - | £2,510 |

Conversions, Adaptations, and Additions

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---------|
| No. of Licences granted | - | - | 35 |
| No. of additional family units provided | | - | 6 |
| Total cost | - | - | £11,072 |

New Dwellings

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---------|
| No. of Licences granted (includes 9 temporary Dwellings) | - | - | 23 |
| Total cost | - | - | £28,022 |

Post-War Housing Programme.

| Parish | Houses completed up to Dec. 31st, 1951 | Houses under construc- tion at Dec. 1951 but not completed |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Berrynarbor | - 8 | — |
| Bishop's Tawton | - 12 | — |
| Bratton Fleming | - 8 | — |
| Braunton | - 58 | 32 |
| Combe Martin | - 37 | — |
| Fremington | - 56 | 6 |
| Georgeham | - 2 | 6 |
| Heanton Punchardon | 16 | — |
| Instow | - 6 | — |
| Landkey | - 4 | — |
| Martinhoe | - 4 | — |
| Marwood | - 4 | — |
| Mortehoe | - 18 | — |
| Parracombe | - 6 | 2 |
| Shirwell | - 8 | — |
| Swimbridge | - 12 | — |
| West Down | - 8 | — |
| Westleigh | - 8 | — |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 275 * | 46 |

* These figures do not include the houses at Blackmoor Gate (Kentisbury), nor do they include the Wartime Agricultural Cottages at Shirwell

Housing Applications.

The following Table gives the number of Applicants on each Parish Housing List as at 31st December, 1951.

Referring to my Report for 1950 when I referred to the fact that despite a steady flow of completed houses the Housing List was growing, a revision of the list has proved that nearly 50 per cent. of the original applicants do not now require houses, having secured local accommodation by their own efforts, or having left the district.

| Parish | | | No of Applicants |
|--------------------|---|---|------------------|
| Arlington | - | - | 2 |
| Ashford | - | - | 1 |
| Atherington | - | - | — |
| Berrynarbor | - | - | 8 |
| Bishop's Tawton | - | - | 39 |
| Bittadon | - | - | — |
| Bratton Fleming | - | - | 13 |
| Braunton | - | - | 148 |
| Brendon | - | - | 1 |
| Challacombe | - | - | 2 |
| Combe Martin | - | - | 39 |
| Countisbury | - | - | — |
| East Down | - | - | 1 |
| Fremington | - | - | 118 |
| Georgeham | - | - | 27 |
| Goodleigh | - | - | 2 |
| Heanton Punchardon | - | - | 10 |
| High Bray | - | - | 2 |
| Horwood | - | - | — |
| Instow | - | - | 29 |
| Kentisbury | - | - | 4 |
| Landkey | - | - | 20 |

Housing Applications—(contd.)

| Parish | | No. of Applicants |
|---------------|---|-------------------|
| Loxhore | - | — |
| Martinhoe | - | — |
| Marwood | - | 4 |
| Mortehoe | - | 14 |
| Newton Tracey | - | 1 |
| Parracombe | - | 10 |
| Pilton West | - | — |
| Shirwell | - | 6 |
| Stoke Rivers | - | — |
| Swimbridge | - | 15 |
| Tawstock | - | — |
| Trentishoe | - | — |
| West Down | - | 12 |
| Westleigh | - | 11 |
| | | ----- |
| | | Total 539 |

Plans

The number of Plans dealt with by the Department shows a considerable decrease during the year, due mainly to the fact that certain classes of work no longer require Planning Approval. 283 applications out of a total of 750 plans submitted by the Local Authorities in the North Devon Divisional Planning area of the Devon County Council were in respect of schemes in your area.

Details of Plans Submitted.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|
| No. approved under Bye-laws | - | 182 |
| No. disapproved under Bye laws | - | 6 |
| No. approved under Town Planning | - | 185 |
| No. disapproved under Town Planning | - | 23 |
| No decision given under Town Planning | | 10 |
| No. withdrawn after formal submission | - | 7 |

I wish to record my thanks to each member of the Council, the Clerk, Medical Officer, and to all members of the Department for their support and consideration during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. DENNIS.

